

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Previously Presented): A sliding screen door, comprising:

a net being alternately folded back in a reverse direction at folding lines parallel to each other, the net is configured to expand and contract by being folded back at the folding lines, and configured to be capable of open-and-close movement by horizontal pulling;

a frame member; and

a net guide moving out from and into an interior of at least one end of the frame member attached to both ends in an open-and-close direction of the net, in response to the open-and-close movement of the net, and guiding an upper and lower end or one end of the net,

wherein the net guide is configured to mutually and flexibly connect a plurality of guiding elements formed of an approximately U-shape composed of a bottom portion following an end portion of the net and a pair of rising wall portions rising from the bottom portion configured to follow faces of the net, wherein at least one of the pair of rising wall portions of the guiding element has, on an inner wall face thereof, an inner rail concave groove extending in a longitudinal direction of the net guide and has, on an outer wall face thereof, an outer rail concave groove extending in a longitudinal direction of the net guide, and to form a series of guide rails formed by making the inner rail concave groove and outer rail concave groove serially in contact with each other at each of the outer wall face and the inner wall face of the rising wall portion of the net guide between adjoining guiding elements,

wherein the concave grooves formed on each of the outer and inner faces of the rising wall portion of the net guide are formed at the rising wall portion at locations having a different height, such that the concave groove formed on the inner face of the rising wall

portion is formed so as to be more adjacent to a tip end of the rising wall portion compared to the concave groove formed on the outer face of the rising wall portion,

wherein the guiding elements are serially in contact with each other at the rising wall portions of the adjoining guiding elements when the net guide is led out along the end portion of the net being stretched so that the inner rail concave groove and outer rail concave groove are in contact with each other at a same height between adjoining guiding elements, and

wherein the guide rail of the net guide is provided with a net-holding member for suppressing the end portion of the net to be disengaged from the net guide by directly or indirectly holding the end portion of the net, the net-holding member has a first engaging portion arranged on a side of the inner wall face of the rising wall portion and a second engaging portion arranged on a side of the outer wall face of the rising wall portion, the first engaging portion of the net-holding member engages with the inner rail concave groove of the guide rail, and the second engaging portion engages with the outer rail concave groove of the guide rail, such that the net-holding member is configured to be movable along the guide rail by engaging both of the inner rail concave groove and outer rail concave groove, and

wherein each of the rising wall portions of the guiding elements includes the inner wall face facing a side of the face of the net and the outer wall face facing opposite side to the inner wall face, and the net-holding member is disposed across the outer and inner wall faces of the rising wall portion of the guiding element while the net-holding member is hung on a tip end of the rising wall portion facing in a rising direction, in which the rising wall portion rises, and is engaged with the guide rail in a manner so as to be movable along the guide rail, and

wherein a thickness the first engaging portion in a rising direction of the rising wall portion is smaller than a width of the inner rail concave groove in the rising direction, and

wherein a thickness of the second engaging portion in a rising direction of the rising wall portion is smaller than a width of the outer rail concave groove in the rising direction.

Claim 2 (Canceled).

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): The sliding screen door according to Claim 1, wherein [[the]] an engaging portion of the net-holding member is formed in a shape of a disk, and wherein the net-holding member is engaged with the rising wall portion of the guiding element in a manner so as to be rotatable in response to a direction of the net keeping a vertical posture.

Claim 4 – 5 (Canceled).

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): The sliding screen door according to Claim 1, wherein a stretching string constituting a parallel movement mechanism for moving a movable doorframe provided for open-and-close operation for the net, in parallel is inserted into the net and stretched between the frame members within the frame member constituting the sliding screen door, and

wherein the net-holding member provided in the net guide is configured to have a hooking hole for hooking the stretching string, and the lower end of the net is indirectly held by hooking the stretching string stretched at a lower part between the frame members within the frame member with the hooking hole.

Claim 7 (Original): The sliding screen door according to Claim 6, wherein the hooking hole for inserting the stretching string in the net-holding member comprises a slit

reaching an outer edge of the net-holding member, and the stretching string is hooked to the hooking hole through the slit.

Claim 8 – 15 (Canceled).

Claim 16 (Previously Presented): The sliding screen door according to Claim 1, wherein the net guide is configured to mutually and flexibly connect many of the guiding elements by inserting a series of wire members into a through hole following the tip end of the rising wall portion of the guiding elements,

wherein an expansion portion expanding to the inner face side is formed at the tip end of the rising wall portion, and

wherein the inner face-side concave groove of the rising wall is formed adjacently to the expansion portion.

Claims 17-18 (Canceled).